

Village of Los Lunas



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New Shops, Locations Mean More Shopping in Los Lunas

Have you noticed the commercial growth in Los Lunas lately?

Large retailers, small shops, new restaurants, businesses changing locations -- it's all part of what is making Los Lunas a popular place to shop for the holidays and any time of year.

Shoppers now have a wide ranging choice of places to find the goods and service they seek without traveling into the big city.

And shopping locally adds to the village's gross receipts tax revenue which is important for everyone who not only lives but travels through the village.

Gross receipts tax revenues are

an integral part of the village's budget helping to provide improved roads, better infrastructure, additional police and fire protection and many more things that make Los Lunas a good place to live, work or shop in.

If you think you have to go out of the area for a product, check again. Items and services that once were unobtainable in Valencia County can now be found, sometimes in more than one place.

Check the Yellow Pages, talk

with your friends, call the local Chambers of Commerce for the location where you can buy that special gift locally.

And check carefully for a service you need. More and more service businesses are operating throughout the county.

On the busiest shopping weekend of the year, that's the Thanksgiving weekend, stay in Los Lunas, stay in Valencia County. Keep your hard-earned money working for you.

More Jobs Now Available Locally

The opening of additional businesses means more jobs are available in Valencia County.

If you are looking for employment

the possibility of staying near home for a job has increased tremendously. You can now work at home as well as shop at home.

Council Looks to Future With Five Year Plan

The Los Lunas Village Council has approved a five year infrastructure capital improvement plan for the municipality that includes a variety of projects to improve the community.

The projects total \$87 million. Some of them are definite including several for next year. Other projects may change, especially those far-

ther down the road.

The plan is composed of the water and sewer master plans as well as input from all the village departments and ideas that came up at the village council workshop in September.

Projects on the list for 2003 which are funded include:

- North Los Lentes road

improvement project from the lateral canal to Trujillo Road, \$503,998.

- Downtown sewer line replacement project, \$694,500, and north loop water improvement project, \$403,000.

- Sewer, storm drain, street and water project east of I-25 and south of Main Street, \$1.5 million with more work in 2004 (this project is on hold, see story Page 2).

- Waste treatment plant acquisition, \$350,000.

- New water well, \$1.4 million.

- Wellness Center addition, paid for with a Community Development Block Grant, \$430,000.

- Transportation building with \$1.25 million federal grant.

Additional projects on the list



An addition will be built on the village's Wellness Center which is located on Lambros Loop off Highway 47.

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Trek for Trash a Success

Volunteers in the Village's Trek for Trash picked up 370 bags of trash in only four hours on a slightly rainy Saturday morning this past September.

Those who worked included Boy Scouts, village employees and a variety of other folks who cleaned up NM Highway 314, west Main Street, South Los Lentos Road and Tondre Road.

Once the clean-up work was accomplished, then village workers Peter Fernandez, Adolph Lopez and Marty Callahan cooked up lunch for the workers. Volunteers received Trek for Trash T-shirts.

Coordinating the event for the village were Josie Navarette and Marie Marquez. Both thanked the workers as well as the merchants who provided a variety of goods. "We couldn't have accomplished the Trek for Trash without your help," they said.



These young participants eagerly wait for the start of the Trek for Trash.

Five Year Plan Has Many Projects.....Continued from Page 1

for 2003 which have not been funded are:

- Detailed traffic movement analysis, \$75,000.
- An east side recycling center, \$292,000.
- Heritage Park improvements, \$325,000.
- Daniel Fernandez Park Youth Center addition, \$325,000.
- A traffic light at NM 314 and Morris Road, \$100,000.

Tentative plans for 2004 include:

- Sidewalks along Juan Perea Road and Rio Grande plus additional sidewalk improvements, about \$300,000.
- Carson Drive drainage improvements, \$308,000.
- Purchase of fire rescue and medical transport units, \$100,000.
- Reconstruction of Main Street between Don Pasqual and NM 314.
- Improvements at Enchantment Little League Fields, \$340,000.
- Sewer system improvements on Don Pasqual from Tondre Road to Main Street, \$1.8 million.

Some of the improvements envisioned for 2005 include wastewater plant expansion; water system

improvements to meet federal arsenic requirements, and a sewer interceptor line. Other 2005 projects could be a new west side fire substation; tennis courts; police department dispatch building, and land acquisition along Don Pasqual.

In 2006, the village is considering construction of a municipal amphitheater and a community indoor swimming pool.

Sewer Project Will Start; Luna Hills Project On Hold

The Downtown Sewer Project will go to bid this fall with work expected to begin about January 1, 2003, on replacing the deteriorating lines.

This project has been in the works for several years. The lines are located in a low water-table area, and many lines are forty years old, in the business district and where the Valencia County Courthouse is located.

The Luna Hills Improvement Project has been put on hold after comments were sent to the Environmental Protection Agency by a neighborhood association. These comments were sent to the EPA at the end of the comment period for the "Finding of No Significant Impact" for the project.

The EPA will determine what the village must answer to the comments in an unknown time frame. Once EPA approval is received, it will take an additional 30 days to acquire signatures from EPA officials.

At that time, the Final Determination will be issued and the project can be advertised.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning Mayor
Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo *Charles Griego*
Gerard Saiz *Robert Vialpando*

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon
Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo Master Municipal Clerk
Chief of Police Nick Balido

Village Commemorates September 11 Events

On a rainy September morning more than a hundred people gathered at the village administration building to mark the events of September 11, 2001 one year after they occurred.

A light rain had been falling in the Los Lunas area but the skies cleared for the thirty-minute program that marked the tragic events of a year ago.

Los Lunas Mayor Louis F. Huning thanked all for coming out for the early morning event. He explained that all were gathered to honor those whose lives were taken by the tragic events. "Many of the people who died were ordinary people like you and I," said Huning. "People who went off to work expecting to return home to family and dinner. They never returned and families and friends continue to mourn. Those ordinary people who lived ordinary lives became heroes that day."

Huning gave a brief summary of the events of that day in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Los Lunas Police Chief Nick Balido spoke about his fellow officers who also became heroes that day. He pointed out that becoming a police officer in a large city is much different than in Los

Lunas.

"Not one police officer knows if they can make that ultimate sacrifice of their life if it becomes necessary," said Chief Balido. He pledged to maintain a department that will serve the citizens of Los Lunas in times of crisis.

Los Lunas Fire Chief Atilano "Lito" Chavez served as master of ceremonies. He talked about how the comparatively low death toll was caused by the firefighters who moved people out of the buildings. He named the units of the Fire Department of New York which lost members that day.

Village Administrator Phillip Jaramillo made special presentations to both the police and fire departments.

The Los Lunas High School band and choir provided musical pieces before, during and after the ceremonies. Refreshments were served in the village administration building when the ceremonies ended.

Special guests included members of the Los Lunas fire and police departments as well as members of other county fire and law enforcement departments.



Many members of the Los Lunas police and fire departments gather on the platform in front of the village administration building for the ceremony commemorating the events of September 11, 2001. At the lower right is a firefighter's uniform signifying the many firefighters who lost their lives. At the lower left is one of the bells rung that morning. Also on the platform are Mayor Louis Huning, Councilors Cecilia CC Castillo, Charles Griego, Gerard Sais and Robert Vialpando as well as village administrator Phillip Jaramillo, Police Chief Nick Balido and Fire Chief Atilano "Lito" Chavez.

ACCION Assists Small Businesses in Los Lunas Area

If you have a small business and are looking for a little bit of financial help then there is an organization which might be able to assist you.

ACCION New Mexico has aided 42 small businesses in the Valencia County area since 1999. A few examples of the businesses in Los Lunas that have received help are restaurants, business consultants, janitorial services, clothing retailers and artisans.

ACCION is a micro-lending organization providing credit to existing and start-up businesses which have difficulty obtaining loans from traditional lending sources.

These loans have enabled entrepreneurs and artists to start or expand their businesses, create job

opportunities and pursue their dreams. In addition, ACCION New Mexico also provides mentorship, networking and advertising opportunities.

ACCION New Mexico is committed to helping entrepreneurs and artists strengthen the local economies and communities of New Mexico.

Sarah Guy of ACCION points out that small business owners strengthen the fabric of New Mexico communities. She adds ACCION has enjoyed being part of the Los Lunas community and its employees look forward to serving more area business owners.

If you own a business or would like to start a business, you can learn more about ACCION New Mexico and the loan application process by calling 243-8844.

HAVE YOU ADOPTED A ROADWAY IN LOS LUNAS?
DO IT TODAY! CALL BETTY BEHREND, UTILITIES DIRECTOR, AT 865-1377



The Village of Los Lunas
Parks & Recreation Department
Presents



ELECTRIC LIGHT CHRISTMAS PARADE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7 BEGINNING AT 6 PM

Parade starts at Carson Drive and Main Street

Proceeds on Main Street to Don Pasqual

VISIT WITH SANTA

in the

Daniel Fernandez Park Youth Center

1103 Highway 314 after the parade

Stockings will be given to the children

For information about the parade contact
the Parks & Recreation Department 865-2128

**NOTE: Carson Drive and Cortez road will be closed
for two hours before the parade**

